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September 30, 2004

Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

**RE: Public Interest Obligations of Television Broadcast Licensees, MM Docket No. 99-360
Second Periodic Review of the Commission's Rules and Policies Affecting the
Conversion to Digital Television, MB Docket No. 03-15
Standardized and Enhanced Disclosure Requirements for Television Broadcast
Licensee Public Interest Obligations, MM Docket No. 00-168
Retention by Broadcasters of Program Recordings, MB Docket No. 04-232**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to section 1.1206 (b)(2) of the Commission's rules, we hereby submit this notice regarding an *ex parte* meeting in the above-referenced proceedings.

On Wednesday, September 29, 2004 representatives of the Public Interest, Public Airwaves Coalition met with FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy and her legal advisor, Stacy R. Fuller. Attending the meeting were Meredith McGehee, Alliance for Better Campaigns; Gloria Tristani, Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ, Inc.; Celia Wexler, Common Cause; Jeff Chester, Center for Digital Democracy; Katherine Grincewich, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; and Angela Campbell and Karen Henein, Institute for Public Representation at Georgetown University Law Center.

The representatives discussed the importance of implementing disclosure requirements and public interest processing guidelines for digital broadcasters including local civic and electoral programming. Also discussed was the importance of defining broadcasters' disclosure requirements and public interest obligations prior to any decision on multicasting must-carry. In addition, the contents of the letter from Meredith McGehee to Chairman Powell in *Retention by*

Broadcasters of Program Recordings, MB Docket No. 04-232 (filed July 29, 2004), were discussed. Finally, PIPA Coalition representatives discussed whether a full notice and comment proceeding is required before adoption of the proposed processing guidelines. Further details are available in the attached document.

In accordance with the Commission's rules, this *ex parte* notice is being filed electronically in the above referenced dockets. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 662-9545.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Karen Henein